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AP Literature and Composition

Writing Log: Literary Analysis – “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?”

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In this particular literary analysis, I feel I could have done better in a variety of aspects. To begin with, I had a few lapses in organization. In describing the literary elements in “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?”, I didn’t really have a pattern for organization such as chronological order or order of importance. There was a point towards the end of my essay where I had two very similar ideas in two paragraphs right together. Upon revision, I combined the similar ideas into a more concise, less repetitive paragraph. Next time I plan to better organize my essay in a manner that makes more sense to readers and avoids repetition.

One aspect that I am proud of in this essay was my usage of quotations. I am pleased with how I applied our hard work at embedding quotations from last year into my analysis. By providing an introduction to each of the quotations and then providing my own insight and thoughts on the quote, I feel as though I made good use of my sources.

I’ve taken a lot from Mr. Lane’s comments on this literary analysis. He suggested I focus on fewer, major elements of fiction instead of briefly talking about many. In doing so, I will also try to meet my goal of having better organization in my next essay. While writing my next essay, I will be more careful in my word choice by using the thesaurus more often because I had several words in my literary analysis that did not quite fit. Mr. Lane also commented several times on my use of passive voice, and next time I will curb that usage. Overall, I plan on being more diligent in how I choose to word sentences so as to avoid any confusion.